

What is claimed is:

1. An integrated reliability and warranty planning system for managing costs associated with a product, comprising:
 - a data source having raw data associated with said product;
 - 5 a first modeling module adapted to generate time dependent warranty event prediction data based on said raw data; and
 - a second modeling module adapted to generate warranty cost data based on said time dependent warranty event prediction data and warranty data associated with said product.
- 10 2. An integrated reliability and warranty planning system as recited in Claim 1 further comprising:
 - a third module adapted to generate financial data based on said warranty cost data;
 - 15 a fourth module adapted to plan and to maintain said financial data;
 - a fifth module adapted to plan and to determine service and support resources based on said time dependent warranty event prediction data; and
 - a sixth module adapted to analyze change in said warranty cost data due to alternative warranty data.
- 20 3. An integrated reliability and warranty planning system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said warranty finance module is configured to monitor said warranty cost data and to indicate whether said warranty cost data exceeds a threshold cost.
- 25 4. An integrated reliability and warranty planning system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said raw data includes actual event data, installed product base data, and product shipment forecast data.

5. An integrated reliability and warranty planning system as recited in Claim 1 wherein said warranty data includes warranty cost parameters data and warranty structure parameters data.

5

6. An integrated reliability and warranty planning system for managing costs associated with a product, comprising:

means for receiving raw data associated with said product;

means for generating failure prediction data based on said raw data; and

10 means for generating warranty cost data based on said time dependent warranty event prediction data and warranty data associated with said product.

7. An integrated reliability and warranty planning system as recited in Claim 6 further comprising:

15 means for generating financial data based on said warranty cost data;

means for planning and maintaining said financial data;

means for planning and determining service and support resources based on said time dependent warranty event prediction data; and

20 means for analyzing change in said warranty cost data due to alternative warranty data.

8. An integrated reliability and warranty planning system as recited in Claim 7 wherein said means for generating said financial data is configured to monitor said warranty cost data and to indicate whether said warranty cost data exceeds a
25 threshold cost.

9. An integrated reliability and warranty planning system as recited in Claim 6 wherein said raw data includes actual event data, installed product base data, and product shipment forecast data.

5 10. An integrated reliability and warranty planning system as recited in Claim 6 wherein said warranty data includes warranty cost parameters data and warranty structure parameters data.

10 11. A method of integrating reliability and warranty planning for a product, comprising the steps of:
a) receiving raw data associated with said product;
b) generating time dependent warranty event prediction data based on said raw data; and
c) generating warranty cost data based on said time dependent warranty event prediction data and warranty data associated with said product.
15

12. A method as recited in Claim 11 further comprising the steps of:
generating financial data based on said warranty cost data;
planning and maintaining said financial data;
20 planning and determining service and support resources based on said time dependent warranty event prediction data; and
analyzing change in said warranty cost data due to alternative warranty data.

13. A method as recited in Claim 12 further including the steps of
25 monitoring said warranty cost data and indicating whether said warranty cost data exceeds a threshold cost.

14. A method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said raw data includes actual event data, installed product base data, and product shipment forecast data.

15. A method as recited in Claim 11 wherein said warranty data includes
5 warranty cost parameters data and warranty structure parameters data.

16. A computer-readable medium comprising computer-executable instructions stored therein for performing a method of integrating reliability and warranty planning for a product, said method comprising the steps of:

- 10 a) receiving raw data associated with said product;
b) generating time dependent warranty event prediction data based on said raw data; and
c) generating warranty cost data based on said time dependent warranty event prediction data and warranty data associated with said product.

15 17. A computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 16 wherein said method further comprises the steps of:

- generating financial data based on said warranty cost data;
planning and maintaining said financial data;
20 planning and determining service and support resources based on said time dependent warranty event prediction data; and
analyzing change in said warranty cost data due to alternative warranty data.

18. A computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 17 wherein said
25 method further includes the steps of monitoring said warranty cost data and indicating whether said warranty cost data exceeds a threshold cost.

19. A computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 16 wherein said raw data includes actual event data, installed product base data, and product shipment forecast data.

5 20. A computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 16 wherein said warranty data includes warranty cost parameters data and warranty structure parameters data.